## NEWS RELEASE

## Hon. Robert T. Matsui Member of Congress

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## CONGRESSIONAL ART CONTEST WINNER ANNOUNCED

Mario Sosa of Elk Grove Wins First Prize, Artwork will be Displayed in U.S. Capitol

SACRAMENTO, CA—Sheldon High School senior Mario Sosa has been declared the winner of the 21<sup>st</sup> annual Congressional Art Contest. Every year, students from across California's Fifth District submit original artwork as part of the Congressional Art Contest. This year, Congressman Matsui received more than thirty submissions from students across Sacramento. A panel of local artists had the unenviable task of choosing between many excellent works of art. After much deliberation, they awarded Mario Sosa of Elk Grove with the first place award. His piece will be sent to Washington, D.C. where it will be displayed in the tunnel between the House Office Buildings and the U.S. Capitol. Sosa and a family member will also be flown to Washington for an unveiling ceremony.

"I congratulate all of the young artists who participated in the contest for their amazing work and phenomenal talent. It is an honor to represent such talented young individuals, and I thank their parents, teachers, and communities for supporting them," said Representative Matsui. "I look forward to seeing Mario Sosa's work every time I walk to the U.S. Capitol."

This year's theme was "Self Image." Mario's piece was entitled, "Mario: The Aztec Warrior" and depicted a traditional Native American headdress in white charcoal on black paper. Second place went to Sheldon High School junior Kaelin Burg. His work in pencil was entitled "Pondering the Possibilities." Third place went to Philip Vasquez, a senior at C.K. McClatchy High School. His work was untitled and was done in oil on canvas.

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